

could not provide the medical services to avoid this consequence.

Mr. President, this issue is a question of trust. Do you trust politicians to make complicated medical decisions affecting women's lives? Or do you trust medical experts consulting with families? This bill says: politicians know best. I say: let's trust the doctors and the families.

Mr. President, let me say that I know there are many Americans who feel very strongly about the issue of abortion. It's a deeply personal and emotional issue, on both sides. I have the greatest respect for many of our citizens who hold different views on this matter. But I would not try to intrude on these complicated decisions, or tell a woman focusing on serious health or fertility risks how to make this difficult decision.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to oppose this intrusion into the doctor-patient relationship. Let's give families, not politicians, the right the choose.

Mr. President, during this debate some Members supporting this measure have been citing statistics that appeared in a recent Bergen Record article on late term abortions. I ask unanimous consent to insert a letter from Metropolitan Medical Associates of Englewood, NJ, that directly refutes the accuracy of those figures.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

METROPOLITAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATES,
Englewood, NJ, September 23, 1996.

Mr. GLENN RITT,
Editor, *The Record, Hackensack, NJ.*

DEAR MR. RITT, We, the physicians and administration of Metropolitan Medical Associates, are deeply concerned about the many inaccuracies in the article printed in September 15, 1996 titled "The Facts on Partial-Birth Abortions".

The article incorrectly asserts that MMA "performs 3,000 abortions a year on fetuses between 20 and 24 weeks, of which at least half are by intact dilation and evacuation." This claim is false as is shown in reports to the New Jersey Department of Health and documents submitted semiannually to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners. These statistics show that the total annual number of abortions for the period between 12 and 23.3 weeks is about 4,000, with the majority of these procedures being between 12 and 16 weeks. The intact D&E procedure (erroneously labeled by abortion opponents as "partial birth abortion") is used only in a small percentage of cases between 20 and 23.3 weeks, when a physician determines that it is the safest method available for the woman involved. Certainly, the number of intact D&E procedures performed is nowhere near the 1,500 estimated in your article. MMA perform no third trimester abortions, where the State is permitted to ban abortions except in cases of life and health endangerment.

Second, the article erroneously states that most women undergoing intact D&E procedures have no medical reason for termination. The article then misquotes a physician from our clinic stating that "most are Medicaid patients * * * and most are for elective, not medical, reasons * * * Most are

teenagers." This is a misrepresentation of the information provided to the reporter. Consistent with *Roe v. Wade* and New Jersey State law, we do not record a woman's specific reason for having an abortion. However, all procedures for our Medicaid patients are certified as medically necessary as required by the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

Because of the sensitive and controversial nature of the abortion issue, we feel that it is critically important to set the record straight.

The Management of Metropolitan Medical Associates.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you, Mr. President. The Senator from New Jersey has spoken, as he always does, with intelligence and with compassion. He is the proudest grandfather I have ever met. A close second is my husband.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. You haven't seen my grandchildren.

Mrs. BOXER. And I say to my friend, his participation in this debate is welcome. It is a welcome part of this debate, because he went through the trauma that these women have gone through, as far as being in a family where such a circumstance occurred.

I say to my colleague from Pennsylvania who stands up and asks the same question, he got his answer. All of us on this side who support the President oppose late-term abortion. We could pass a bill that would ban this procedure but for life and health. I ask him again to do that. Clearly, he prefers this bill with no real exceptions.

I thank the President for his forbearance, and we will continue this debate after the lunch break.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to a previous unanimous-consent agreement, the Senate will now stand in recess until 1:30 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:34 p.m., the Senate recessed until 1:29 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. GRAMM).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, in my capacity as a Senator from the State of Texas, suggests the absence of a quorum. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COVERDELL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business.

OCTOBER 1996 QUARTERLY REPORTS

The mailing and filing date of the October quarterly report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Tuesday, October 15, 1996. All principal campaign committees supporting Senate candidates in the 1996 races must file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116. Senators may wish to advise their campaign committee personnel of this requirement.

The Public Records Office will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. on October 15, to receive these filings. For further information, please contact the Office of Public Records on (202) 224-0322.

TWELVE-DAY PRE-GENERAL REPORTS

The filing date of the 12-Day Pre-General Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Thursday, October 24, 1996. The mailing date for the aforementioned report is Monday, October 21, 1996, if postmarked by registered or certified mail. If this report is transmitted in any other manner it must be received by the filing date. All principal campaign committees supporting Senate candidates in the 1996 races must file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116. Senators may wish to advise their campaign committee personnel of this requirement.

The Public Records Office will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 24, to receive these filings. For further information, please contact the Office of Public Records on (202) 224-0322.

THIRTY-DAY POST-GENERAL REPORTS

The mailing and filing date of the 30-Day Post-General Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Thursday, December 5, 1996. All principal campaign committee supporting Senate candidates in the 1996 races must file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116. Senators may wish to advise their campaign committee personnel of this requirement.

The Public Records Office will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on December 5, to receive these filings. For further information, please contact the Office of Public Records on (202) 224-0322.

FORTY-EIGHT-HOUR NOTIFICATIONS

The Office of Public Records will be open on three successive Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon until 4 p.m. for the purpose of accepting 48-hour notifications of contributions required by

the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended. The dates are October 19 and 20, October 26 and 27, and November 2 and 3. All principal campaign committee supporting Senate candidates in 1996 must notify the Secretary of the Senate regarding contributions of \$1,000 or more if received after the 20th day, but more than 48 hours before the day of the general election. The 48-hour notifications may also be transmitted by facsimile machine. The Office of Public Records FAX number is (202) 224-1851.

REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for 1996 third quarter mass mailings is October 25, 1996. If a Senator's office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations, or negative reports, should be submitted to the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116.

The Public Records Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the filing date to accept these filings. For further information, please contact the Public Records Office on (202) 224-0322.

THE RETURN OF STS-79 AND ASTRONAUT SHANNON LUCID

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, earlier this morning, in fact, 8:13 this morning to be exact, the crew of the space shuttle *Atlantis* returned to Earth having completed another successful docking mission with the Russian *Mir* space station. I want to extend my heartiest congratulations to the *Atlantis* and the *Mir* crews, as well as the thousands of NASA employees and contractors who brought this mission to completion.

Mr. President, this mission is one for the record books. When docked with the *Mir*, the shuttle-*Mir* structure represented the largest manmade structure ever put in orbit. It weighed more than 240 tons. The *Atlantis* crew also set a record by transferring nearly 5,000 pounds of equipment and supplies and water to the *Mir*, and returning with more than 2,150 pounds of *Mir* equipment, along with the experiments and, of course, some of the things they did not want to toss overboard, some of the trash.

In addition, the return of STS-79 concludes a mission of experiments in a number of different fields. I think we too often lose sight of some of the things going on in the program. We think of the human experience up there, and we try to emote to that and think what it is like to be up there as long as some of the people were on this particular flight.

But these missions are all to do research. They are basic, fundamental research. The experiments that they had on this mission included things in the fields of advanced technology, Earth sciences, fundamental biology, human

life sciences, microgravity, and space sciences. These are things largely that will be of benefit to people right here on Earth.

Data from this mission also will supply the insight for the planning and development of the international space station, Earth-based sciences of human and biological processes, and the advancement of commercial technology. In other words, this sets the stage for even more ambitious programs, and ones that I think will be even more productive.

However, by far, the most significant event is the return of Astronaut Shannon Lucid. Dr. Lucid now has more time in space than any other U.S. astronaut. She is a veteran of six shuttle missions, including the latest STS-79. She has logged, as a grand total, including this mission, a little over 223 days in space, including 188 days on this most recent mission. She has more cumulative time and more continuous time in space than any other U.S. astronaut.

Now, we have to put this in perspective. She traveled on this flight some 75 million miles, the same as 157 round trips to the Moon and back, and she has completed on this mission and the others she was on, a total of 3,008 orbits of the Earth.

Furthermore, when Dr. Lucid began her mission on *Mir*, she kicked off a 2-year period of continuous U.S. presence on the *Mir* spacecraft. This is a feat of a rather remarkable woman.

I would like to provide my colleagues with a little background. Shannon Lucid, Dr. Lucid, was born January 14, 1943, in Shanghai, China. I believe her parents were missionaries. She considers Bethany, OK, to be her hometown. She is married with three children. She graduated from Bethany High School, Bethany, OK, in 1960, and received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from the University of Oklahoma in 1963, and a master of science and doctor of philosophy degrees in biochemistry from the University of Oklahoma in 1970 and 1973, respectively.

As I mentioned earlier, Lucid holds the endurance record for American astronauts in space. STS-79 is her sixth space shuttle mission, having flown previously on STS 51-G in 1985, STS-34 in 1989, STS-43 in 1991, STS-58 in 1993, and STS-74 in 1996.

Dr. Lucid began her record-setting mission when she joined the *Mir 21* crew with the March 24, 1996, docking of STS-76.

In a recent interview, Dr. Lucid was asked the following question: What motivated you to get involved in the space program? I thought her answer was very interesting and I think we all may be able to learn a little from it.

She said:

You have to go way back to when I was a little girl. When I was a little girl I was very interested in being a pioneer like in the American West and I really liked those stories and I thought, "Well, I was born in the wrong time." And then I thought, "Well, I

can just be an explorer," but then I thought, "When I grow up all the Earth will be explored." And then I started reading about Robert Goddard and the rockets he had done and so I read a little about that. And then I started reading about science fiction. This was when I was in fourth and fifth grade and I thought, "Well, that is what I can do when I grow up. I can grow up and explore space." And of course when I talked to people about this they thought that would be rather crazy because that was long before America even had a space program. So I just think it's pretty remarkable things turned out the way they did.

That is a quote from Shannon Lucid. I think it is pretty remarkable, too. I think Dr. Lucid is truly a space pioneer and a hero for our young people. I think she represents what is best about our space program. She demonstrates setting goals, pursuing them, thinking about them, studying them, and with hard work and education can bring about truly momentous results.

Mr. President, I welcome Dr. Lucid and the rest of the STS-79 crew back to Earth. In addition to Dr. Lucid, the STS-79 crew includes: Jay Apt, Terry Wilcutt, the pilot, William Raddy as the commander, Tom Akers, Carl Walz, John Blaha, who is replacing Dr. Lucid on *Mir*. Now, John Blaha will go ahead with the experiments that were left up there and some they took up just for him.

I read from Aviation Week and Space Technology of September 9:

After *Atlantis* departs, Blaha on *Mir* will begin work on 38 science investigations, including 26 being continued from Lucid's mission. His major science topics and the number of investigations planned in each includes: Advanced technology (3); Earth remote sensing (8); biology (2); human life sciences (10); microgravity/biotechnology (9), and tests to reduce international station design risks (6).

Blaha will also do significant *Mir* systems work, including piloting attitude maneuvers and changing solar array angles when his two Russian colleagues are working outside the station. He is to remain on board *Mir* until picked up by shuttle Mission 81 in mid-January.

Mr. President, this was indeed a great transfer and it sets the stage for the space station. Some of the hardware on the space station will begin to be put up by the end of next year by 1997 if everything remains on schedule, and we certainly hope it does.

All on this mission, and John Blaha, who is up there now, we wish him well, of course, and we welcome this whole crew back to Earth. Congratulations to them. From Dan Goldin at the top of NASA, the Administrator of NASA, to all the employees down the line, they all deserve a great round of applause from all of us. They deserve our thanks and congratulations on a job well done.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.